

First Inventor: Kevin A. Thomas
Application No. 10/762,204
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Amendments to the Specification

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Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 6 and 7 of the Specification to read as follows:

In accordance with one aspect of the invention, materials for manufacturing the resorbable radiopaque markers disclosed herein can include, in addition or as an alternative to any of the above, (i) barium sulfate or substantial equivalent, and (ii) polymer additive components (PAC) otherwise known as polymer binder components or a polymeric binder composition, such as a combination including butyl stearate or substantial equivalent, canola oil or substantial equivalent; stable flake-S solidified oil or substantial equivalent, NA 860-000 or substantial equivalent, medium weight (MW) polyethylene (PE) or substantial equivalent, and high flow polystyrene or substantial equivalent, and any various combinations of the above materials. The resorbable radiopaque markers can comprise 30-70 volume percent barium sulfate and 70-30 volume percent polymer additive components.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11 of the Specification to read as follows:

The incorporation of the resorbable radiopaque markers 14 into any of the implants 10, regardless of material, is possible for example by machining one or more appropriate sized holes, for example, a hole dimensioned to accommodate one or more markers 14, and inserting or press-fitting the marker or markers 14 into the hole. Alternatively, the resorbable radiopaque markers 14 could be incorporated into implant devices during the manufacture of such devices (for example in the thermal forming manufacture of polymeric devices) or by other methods known by persons of skilled in the art.

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Please amend the first full paragraph on page 11 of the Specification to read as follows:

The use of a radiographic marker, such as a bead, as disclosed herein, allows radiographic assessment of the implant's position without obscuring visualization of any other changes, such as tissue changes, surrounding the implant. In comparison, resorbable devices that incorporate a radiopaque material through the device ~~to~~ do not permit such visualization. Metallic markers allow radiographic assessment of an implant's position but may interfere or prevent other imaging modalities such as CT or MRI scans.